UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/52/993
S/1998/693
27 July 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Agenda item 61
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 24 July 1998 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, and further to my letter dated 23 July 1998 (A/52/991-S/1998/683), I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus and of the flight information region of Nicosia by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 22 and 23 July 1998.

On 22 July, at 1418 hours, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the northern Nicosia flight information region in violation of international air traffic regulations and landed at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, returning the same day to the Ankara flight information region.

On 23 July, two CN-235 aircraft of the Turkish Air Force entered the northern Nicosia flight information region. One of the aircraft landed at the illegal Tymbou airport and later both of them returned to the Ankara flight information region.

As stated in my previous letters, such unauthorized intrusions into the Nicosia flight information region and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus are in violation of international air traffic rules and, at the same time, they are in contravention of the provisions of the Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, which state that such overflights increase political tension on the island and undermine efforts towards achieving a final settlement.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish once more to protest strongly against these repeated provocative acts by Turkey, a Member State of the United Nations, against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus. These acts are in complete disregard of

international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant decisions of the Organization on the question of Cyprus.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the fifty-second session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Agis LOIZOU
Chargé d'affaires a.i